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Cultural Center Calendar August, 1979
3105 Shattuck, Berkeley 849-2568

Thank You—Our Forty Days of Fundraising took a lot longer than we had expected, but we finally reached our goal of \$15,000. Continued community support will assure our ability to grow and offer important cultural and educational programs. Thank you!

Nicaragua—As the revolutionary struggle intensifies in Nicaragua, we are offering our facilities to several groups working in solidarity for a Week of Support for the Nicaraguan People's Struggle. Starting August 1, it will include film, updates, music, discussion and statements of solidarity. Your support is urgently needed! Our calendar also features a historical review of US-Nicaraguan relations.

Film Series—on Human Rights
Every Tuesday. Films begin promptly at 8:30 pm
\$2 (series tickets \$6/4)

Children's Programs
Continuing through the summer. Call us for details.

The Community Center—Our newest addition is proving to be a very positive source of educational and cultural events to supplement our Cultural Center. It's next door at 3109 Shattuck. Be sure to read the Community Center Calendar and find out about what we're doing.

As a public service, La Peña makes its space available, free of charge, to community organizations for rehearsals, classes, meetings, and educational and fundraising benefits. We feel it is important to help stimulate an environment conducive to discussion. In the past three-and-a-half years, more than 100 organizations and groups have used our facilities. The use of the space by these organizations does not indicate that La Peña endorses the views presented.

Wheelchair Accessible
PAS Vouchers accepted
Programs are subject to change without notice.
If you move please let us know your old and new address so you can continue receiving the calendar. The Post Office will not forward it and address corrections are very expensive.

Week of Support for the Nicaraguan People's Struggle

DOM-SUN	LUN-MON	MAR-TUES	MIER-WED	JUEV-THUR	VIER-FRI	SAB-SAT
5 Evening of Int'l Solidarity with the People of Nicaragua. A variety of cultural & solidarity presentations: Irish music & dance, Colombian folk dance, Gospel music, Chilean protest songs & more. Statements of solidarity from many progressive Third World Organizations. Sponsored by La Coordinadora Latinoamericana. 8 pm, \$1 donation.	6 Peña film showing Hiroshima Mon Amour 1959, 88 min, b/w, dir. & pro. by Alain Resnais, his first feature and his most memorable. From the beginning, in which love-making is intercut with newsreel footage of Hiroshima's atomic holocaust & its aftermath, to a painful night walk through the reconstructed city, we are caught in a web of temporal & national boundaries. 8:30 pm, \$2	7 Peña film series The Jackal of Nahueltoro . Chile, 1969, 89 min, b/w, dir. by Miguel Littin. "A remarkable picture. Its agonizing buildup to his death gives this film its emotional & political depth. . . . When a murderer seems as vulnerable as his victims, that's proof of the filmmaker's talents." Nora Sayre, <i>New York Times</i> . 8:30 pm, \$2	1 Film Showing September '78 A vivid documentary recounting the historic events of the popular insurrection last fall in Nicaragua, including historical background. A speaker will update the most current events. 8:30 pm, \$2 donation	2 Religious basis of support for liberation in Nicaragua. An expression of the Latin American Theology of Liberation Movements presented by the socially concerned religious in the Bay Area. Anal & music. (Misa Campesina Nicaraguense) 8 pm, \$2	3 Una Noche Cultural Nicaraguense/Nicaraguan Cultural Evening featuring music, poetry & painting. The current situation analyzed, including the most recent policies & communiques of the Provisional Government. Sponsored by: Comité de Solidaridad; No Intervención en Nicaragua; Committee for Political & Human Rights in Nicaragua; Permanent Comm. for Human Rights, SF. 8:30 pm, \$2 donation	4 Benefit Fiesta for Nicaragua, featuring the hot salsa of Orquesta Borinquen . Tremendo guiso! Cumbias io Merengue & salsa. 9:30 pm, \$3.50 Sponsored by the Committee for Political & Human Rights in Nicaragua.
12 Benefit for the Melvin Black Human Rights Committee (MBHRC) Color video film, <i>The Harder They Come</i> (2 hours) about Jimmy Cliff. Poetry by Ahimsa, Marvin X (el-muhajir) & Abdul Rahim with a tribute poem to Muhammad Ali, "I Shook Up the World." 7 pm, \$3	13 Voices of the Mountains, a concert of Appalachian music by Guy Carawan & friends . Traditional bluegrass music: hammar dulcimer, banjo, guitar and songs about the lives of miners, mill workers and all the people of the mountains. From the Highlander Center, Haymarket, Tenn. 8:30 pm, \$2.50	14 Peña film series In the Event Anyone Disappears , made by the brothers inside maximum security prisons in NJ. The Politics of Torture , a powerful exploration of the US record to promote human rights using the example of Iran, the Philippines & Chile. 8:30 pm, \$2	8 African Music & Dance Ensemble "A living museum of African culture," one of the best established and most exciting cultural groups presenting traditional West African dances. 9 pm, \$2.50	9 Peña Concert Pastime with Good Company . Carnival & theater music from Spain & England in the High Renaissance. Contemporary comedy in the style of the <i>Commedia dell'arte</i> . Closely related to New World folk-music, Arabic & Indian forms, specializing in comic & popular styles, performing with unusual historical instruments & north African percussion. 8:30 pm, \$2.50	10 Alive! A concert with this extraordinary women's contemporary ensemble, blending acoustic jazz with Latin & African rhythms and an exceptional vocal style to create a sound entirely their own. 8:30 pm, \$3.50	11 Brazilian Fiesta with Corpo Santo an Afro-Brazilian folkloric & fiesta group. Performing the lively & very danceable music of Capoeira, Maculele, Gafieria, Batucada & Sampa-Dura. Corpo Santo is a performance as well as a demonstration of traditional Afro-Brazilian music & dance. 9:30 pm, \$3.50
19 Benefit for the Warren Sumlin Legal Defense Committee A panel discussion on Mr Sumlin's case as well as a slide show by African Nat'l Prisoners Organization, and some wonderful entertainment by Ms Gladys Palmer, renowned jazz pianist. On Death Row in Arkansas, Sumlin's case is a prime example of the "Lynch Law." 8 pm, \$3 donation	20 Peña film showing Chuquigato , a new Bolivian film directed by Antonio Equino, 1978, color, 90 min. Chuquigato is the Indian name for Bolivia's capital city La Paz, where the various races & social classes are segregated by the city's unique topography, which provides the backdrop for the film's narrative. 8:30 pm, \$2	21 Peña film series Inside Women Inside 1978, color, 28 min. A profoundly daring & humanistic film disrupting our conventional view of women behind bars. We Demand Freedom , from powerlessness inside, prisoners have a growing awareness of their potential political force. 8:30 pm, \$2	15 Closed. Cocina de los Andes open as usual, 6-10 pm	16 Peña Concert with Wayne Horvitz "In particular, the astonishing keyboard wizardry of pianist Wayne Horvitz provides the colorful center of the group's wide ranging musical explorations." — <i>Jazz Beat</i> . The group will be a quartet, featuring Stan Poplin, bass; Philip Johnson, sax; Mark Miller, drums. 8:30 pm, \$2.50	17 Lynch & Brennan A concert of joyous, defiant, revolutionary Irish songs & a good time to boot! "We sing mainly workers' songs, rebel songs, Irish traditional music & write a lot of our own stuff." Kevin Brennan, Brian Lynch, Gerry McCann & Martin Lynch. 9 pm, \$2.50	18 Peña Concert The Berkeley Women's Music Collective with Robin Flower, Nancy Vogl & Joan Balter The collective is much more than just a band. They play original jazz, rock & country music & give power & meaning to their work. Robin Flower & friends play old-time music bluegrass, Irish & traditional fiddle music. 9 pm, \$3.50
26 Vietnam Today: An Eyewitness Report & film. Beatrice Elsmann just returned from Vietnam & presents first-hand experiences describing the results of the Chinese invasion & discussing the "Baez Open Letter," the refugee problem & Kampuchea. A new film on Pol Pot's policies in Kampuchea will be shown. Sponsored by the US/Vietnam Friendship Association. 7:30 pm, donation requested	27 Peña Concert with Belair , a new original sound with unique instrumentation involving 16 strings & melodic winds. An innovative sound with string percussion. Appearing recently with such greats as Joe Pass, Art VanDamme, the Persuasions, Stan Getz & Mel Graves; Belair is sure to bring magic to the stage. 8:30 pm, \$2.50	28 Peña film series The Terror & the Time Sweden, 1978, b/w, 75 min. This ambitious documentary treats colonialism & cold-war imperialism in the context of the British army invasion of Guyana in 1953. Focusing on the economic & cultural repression of the Guyanese people & capturing the force of historical events. 8:30 pm, \$2	22 Benefit for AIM Nuclear fuel cycle kills indigenous peoples. Most uranium reserves & milling facilities lie on Indian Treaty land. By the year 2025 Indian land in New Mexico & the Black Hills will be devastated. This will be a forum on energy & the survival of indigenous people. 8:30 pm, \$2	23 Peña concert with Leon Rosselson , on tour from England where politics & music have had an uneasy relationship, in this context Leon shines out like a red beacon. He fires his musical darts at repressive religion, marriage, mindless consumerism & modern capitalism. 8:30 pm, \$2.50	24 Peña film showing Sacco & Vanzetti 1971, color, 118 min, dir. by Giuliano Montaldo. A searing account of the infamous 1920 trial, & the six years of desperate appeals, during which two Italian immigrant struggled to clear themselves of murder & robbery charges. Executed this day, 1927, by the US government. 8:30 pm, \$2	25 Peña Concert with Meg Christian One of the founding mothers of Olivia Records in a rare solo concert of strong, contemporary feminist music. 7:30 & 10 pm, \$4
			29 Peña Flamenco Concert Augustin Rios de Moron Gypsy flamenco guitarist from Southern Spain. His music is authentic, powerful & highly individual. He composes much of his own material and will be joined by dancers, singers and guitarists for an exciting evening of flamenco. 9 pm, \$3	30 Latin American Update A monthly forum that spotlights the most current events taking place in America, featuring well informed speakers as well as a question/answer period. The importance & pertinence of these forums has brought more interest each month. Beginning at 8:30 pm, \$1 donation.	31 Cajun Party with Queen Ida & her Bon Ton Zydeco Band Music from the Louisiana delta at its liveliest. An exciting & irrepressible group that will keep you moving. 9:30 pm, \$3.50	For more information on the situation in Nicaragua contact: Nicaragua Interfaith Committee for Action (NICA) , 944 Market, SF, CA 94102; Committee for Political & Human Rights in Nicaragua , PO Box 40897, SF, CA 94140, 285-0660

If you cut on the dotted line you will find yourself with two complete calendars, one for the Cultural Center and one for the Community Center. Post them both.

The US and Nicaragua: A Historical Overview

"As forces of the Sandinista National Liberation Front have moved closer to winning an outright military victory over the National Guard, the Carter administration has pulled out all the diplomatic stops to try to get a settlement to its liking in Nicaragua. Behind the diplomatic maneuvering lay at all times an implicit threat of military intervention, as Carter administration officials privately refused to completely rule out sending US troops to Nicaragua to prevent a Sandinista military victory and the establishment of a 'Cuban-oriented' government.

"The policy makers' worst fears continue to be: that a left government in Nicaragua would strengthen the hand of the left throughout Central America; that the Sandinistas would be too pro-Cuba; and that a Sandinista victory could damage the chances both for Senate ratification of the SALT II treaty and for a 1980 election victory for Jimmy Carter."

—Elizabeth Farnsworth

The International Bulletin, July 16, 1979

The history of US intervention, direct and indirect, in the affairs of Nicaragua is a long one. The current situation is the result of US foreign policy directed toward Central America during this century. Today's battle for Nicaragua is part of a war that has been raging for over 50 years.

Future relations between the US and Nicaragua in the post-Somoza period will only be understood in the context of what has come before. For this reason we are presenting a brief historical sketch to illustrate clearly why there are likely possibilities of continued intervention, and why we should be concerned about the Nicaraguan People's right to self-determination. We hope this information will help give you a better basis to understand the daily news stories coming from Managua and Washington.

Much of this article is taken directly from a portion of NACLA's Report on the Americas "Crisis in Nicaragua," Nov-Dec 1978. The Report contains much more information and we highly recommend it along with other NACLA publications. Portions were also taken from Pan y Agua, a publication of the Twin Cities Chile Solidarity Committee. (NACLA stands for the North American Congress on Latin America; materials can be obtained through the Data Center, 464 19th St Oakland.)

Introduction

Nicaragua is a small country (about the size of Michigan) with a population of only 2.3 million. Sixty percent of that population lives in extreme poverty, and 95% of the urban population lives a marginal existence. Rural inhabitants, comprising more than 50% of the total population, earn an average annual income of less than US\$150, while half earn less than US\$39 per year. Unemployment exceeds 30% of the working population, reaching a peak in the off-season of 50% among rural workers.

Nicaragua has the lowest rate of spending on public health and education in Central America, and the highest on per capita military expenditures. Theoretically, there is one doctor per 1,500 people, but 60% of all deaths occur without medical assistance. Illiteracy stands at 60% nationwide, reaching 80-95% in the countryside.

In 1972, natural disaster compounded the institutionalized violence of exploitation in Nicaragua. On December 23, the capital city of Managua—where nearly one fifth of the population lives—was struck by a massive earthquake that left 18,000 dead and 170,000 homeless. Ninety percent of the commercial sector of the city was completely demolished. A freeze on wages and the soaring cost of basic necessities in the aftermath of the disaster further worsened the plight of the poor and homeless. At the same time, many of the elite, Somoza and his associates principal among them, enriched themselves with "reconstruction" funds that flowed in from abroad (totaling US\$250 million). Army officers made off with donated relief supplies that later reappeared on the black market.

Pent-up resentment began to erupt, first in the form of demonstrations, strikes and lockouts, followed by land seizures and violent protests. The organized armed confrontations of September 1978, and the level of mass unrest and mobilization they demonstrated, forced the government to move from institutionalized violence to overt terrorism.

19th Century Background: Competing Foreign Predators

"Instability" has plagued Nicaragua for over a century. Despite 21 years of almost uninterrupted US military occupation, followed by 42 years of US-sustained Somoza rule, the problem persists. Two fundamental factors are behind the current crisis which has left the Nicaraguan people preparing for armed insurrection against this tyranny.

First, imperialist interests took an early and eager interest in Nicaragua due to its strategic geographic location. Secondly, imperialist penetration distorted the country's economy and thwarted the development of a strong, domestic bourgeoisie. As a result, successive military "solutions" were imposed to forge a political framework that did not coincide with the economic strength of the dominant class. Needless to say, it bore no relationship to the demands and needs of the Nicaraguan people.

Throughout the 19th century, the native elite had been bitterly divided into two regional-family clans.

Centered in Granada were the traditional latifundists and regional merchants, closely tied to the old colonial order and to primitive forms of economic organization. They were dominated by the Chamorro family and politically represented by the Conservative Party. In León was a more dynamic, incipient agro-export bourgeoisie, with the Sacasa family and the Liberal Party at its center. This sector favored free trade, modernization of the country's infrastructure, appropriation of communal lands and the creation of a mobile labor force. Continual civil wars reflected fierce conflict over forms of agricultural production and the role of the state.



Inter-imperialist rivalries compounded these internal antagonisms. Central America had long been a British stronghold, but the emergence of the United States as an imperialist power threatened this hegemony. Nicaragua was not particularly rich in raw materials, nor was it developed enough to sustain significant agricultural production. But it did have one valuable resource: its lake-and-river system provided an easy trans-isthmian route, making it a desirable canal site.

Foreign attempts to gain exclusive rights over the passageway added fuel to the Conservative-Liberal feud, as Britain and the United States competed to supply and support one side and then the other.

This costly competition ended provisionally in 1850, with the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, which provided that neither country would construct or control a canal through Nicaragua. But the competition between the Liberals and Conservatives continued, reaching a peak in 1855, when, in response to a dispute over the city of Granada, Liberals contracted the North American William Walker to lead a mercenary army against their opponents. With the backing of US bankers Morgan and Garrison, Walker defeated the Conservative army, then continued his bloody campaigns elsewhere, finally declaring himself president of Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Honduras. His regime was immediately recognized by the United States, which honored him as a national hero. In 1857 a combined force of Central American Armies put an end to Walker's tyranny by executing him.

For the next 33 years Nicaragua was ruled by the Conservative party. With no links to the world market, and dominated by feudal overlords and the Catholic Church, the nation remained isolated. Then in 1893, José Santos Zelaya, a Liberal, was elected president.

Zelaya opened the door for foreign investment, particularly by the US. He expropriated communal Indian lands and Church properties, and redistributed them to private coffee producers, thus creating the nucleus of a rural proletariat. The dollar clearly replaced the pound, and commercial and agricultural exports grew rapidly in importance and power. Railroads, telegraphs, and state banks were introduced for the first time, foreign capital flowed into the country, and an agrarian bourgeoisie began to establish itself.

After accepting US aid to oust the British from Nicaragua's Atlantic coast, Zelaya refused to grant the US canal rights and then negotiated with Japan for the construction of a canal through Nicaragua. In 1909 a US-backed coup overthrew Zelaya and installed a Conservative government which accepted the permanent presence of US troops in the country and put New York banks in control of the economy.

The Conservative coup was followed by years of rebellion against the government, and a series of interventions by the United States to protect the unpopular government. In 1912 US troops intervened to crush a Liberal rebellion led by Benjamin Zeledon, and in gratitude the regime signed the Chamorro-Bryan treaty, allowing for US construction and control of a naval base and interoceanic canal in Nicaragua "in perpetuity and for all time."



Sandinista guerrilla with veteran of first Sandino rebellion

Resistance to Imperialism

Nicaragua's transformation into a US military and financial protectorate aggravated internal social pressures. US support for the ruling Conservatives helped forge a nationalist bond between the old Zelayista Liberals and the dispossessed peasantry, resulting in at least ten armed uprisings between 1913 and 1924.

When US Marines were withdrawn in 1926, Conservative attempts to retain power met with armed Liberal and popular resistance. Within a matter of months the Marines were back in Nicaragua in force. Not unlike its stance in the present conjuncture, the United States was determined to both reconcile Liberal and Conservative interests and to exterminate the popular resistance to US domination. A political accommodation was arranged between the two parties with

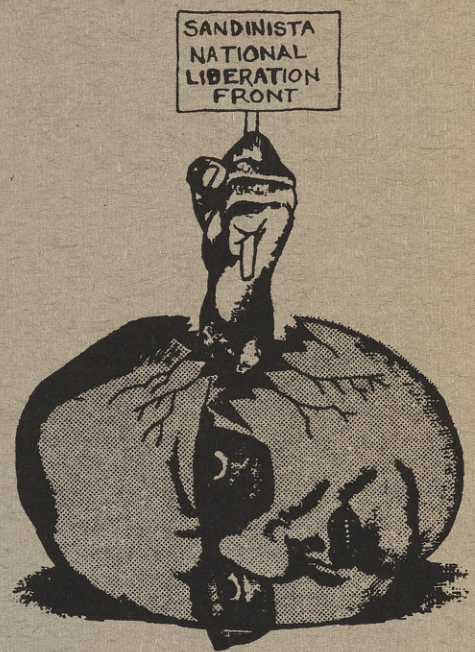
only one hitch: several Liberal leaders, led by Cesar A. Sandino, would not lay down their arms.

Sandino, who had left his job in the northern mines to join the rebellion, declared his intentions to continue fighting, and withdrew with a band of supporters to the mountains. National Sovereignty of Nicaragua fought an expanding guerrilla war against the National Guard and a US occupation army. By the time the war ended, 12,000 marines were fighting in Nicaragua, in the first Vietnam-style conflict in US history.

As Sandino's armed resistance grew stronger and more radical in its demands and anti-imperialist sentiment within the United States itself heightened, Conservative-Liberal infighting continued. Thus, the United States faced a contradiction of its own making. In the absence of a consolidated bourgeoisie in Nicaragua, there was no domestic force able to overcome the rebels.

The US response to this situation was the creation of a native, "non-partisan" force called the National Guard. The Guard was to replace the Marines in their role as political arbiters, protectors of US interests and exterminators of popular resistance.

Hoping to divide the opposition, the US supported the candidacy of Juan B. Sacasa for president in 1932. Sacasa, the general under whom Sandino first served in the war, won the election, and invited the guerrilla hero to the presidential palace in Managua for a peace conference. On the way, Sandino was kidnapped and assassinated, his murder arranged by Anastasio Somoza Garcia, chief of the National Guard. Somoza later admitted his orders had come from the man who had appointed him to head the Guard, US ambassador Arthur Bliss Lane.



The Somoza Machine

President Sacasa attempted to enforce civilian control over the Guard. But Somoza clearly had other things in mind. He maneuvered within the Liberal Party to gain support for his presidential ambitions, promising lucrative political appointments in return. By 1935 Somoza was ready, and let it be known that he was to win the upcoming elections.

Sacasa and the Conservative Party strongly objected, appealing in vain to the United States to either discipline Somoza or send back the Marines. But Somoza was well positioned. With the opposition boycotting the contest, and the National Guard counting the ballots, Somoza won handily. Until his assassination twenty years later, Anastasio ("Tacho") Somoza ran the country like a personal estate.

When Tacho first took power in 1936, he owned little more than a broken-down coffee estate. By the time of his assassination in 1956, conservative estimates placed his worth at some US\$60 million. His assets were said to include 10% of the nation's arable land, 51 cattle ranches, 46 coffee plantations, extensive real estate holdings in Managua, and interests in a number of business enterprises.

Tacho employed the National Guard to intimidate the owners of properties he coveted, forcing them to sell below market prices. Recalcitrants faced bureaucratic if not physical harassment. Foreign traders in key raw materials (rubber, wood and gold) were obliged to pay a fixed percentage of their profits directly to the tyrant. Public works employees labored on Somoza ranches, while the National Railway and Power Companies serviced his properties.

Somoza took advantage of World War II to expropriate German-owned coffee estates and to exploit emergency trade restrictions. By monopolizing the sale of export and import licenses, Somoza stockpiled basic goods until a hefty profit could be turned on the black market.

As he consolidated his political power, Somoza found it more convenient to leave the rackets (gambling, prostitution and contraband) to his subordinates and concentrate his own efforts on more "respectable" endeavors. Government institutions and US aid became vehicles for expanding and centralizing his personal fortune, and for moving from predominantly agricultural investments into industrial sectors.

Early on, Somoza saw the importance of nourishing a secondary political elite to partake in the spoils and thereby broaden and institutionalize the family's control. In the forefront of the Somocista elite is the National Guard—the dynasty's strongest card against the opposition.

From its inception the National Guard has been controlled by the Somozas and has been beholden to the Somoza family for its favors and loyal to the family itself. Not a patriotic army at all, it is rather a partner to the *personalismo* of the Somoza dynasty. In 1947, for example, the newly elected president, Leonardo Arguello, whose candidacy has been supported by the Somozas, exercised the power of his office to replace Somoza as head of the National Guard. Somoza responded immediately with a coup that returned him to the presidency only four weeks after Arguello's election to office.

The following years saw an intensified repression in Nicaragua, particularly against labor, and a frequent employment of the National Guard to quell popular resistance. As well as consolidating his control over the people and the Congress during the 1950s, Somoza solidified his already strong relationship with the United States.

From Nicaragua the US launched the 1954 invasion of Guatemala which resulted in the forcible overthrow of Jacobo Arbenz's liberal government and the installation of a Texas-trained colonel, Rodolfo Castillo Armas, as head of state. According to the US ambassador to Honduras, he and the ambassadors to Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua planned the invasion. Congratulations were sent by CIA Chief Allen Dulles, who formerly had been director of a concern whose expropriated lands were returned by Castillo Armas—The United Fruit Company. In future years the Somozas would again contribute Nicaragua's resources of land or troops to other US programs of aggression in the Americas. The US invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs in 1961 was staged from Nicaragua, as was the invasion of the Dominican Republic in 1965. It is interesting to note that Guatemala and the Dominican Republic were the two countries joining the US in the recent OAS mediating team.

On September 21, 1956, "Tacho" Somoza was shot by a young Nicaraguan, Rigoberto Lopez Perez, who described his act as "not a sacrifice, but a duty." President Eisenhower ordered a medical unit rushed from Panama to Nicaragua to save the dying dictator, but to no avail.

Following Tacho's death, his sons Luis and Anastasio ("Tachito") assumed power over the Presidency and the National Guard, respectively. Soon after Luis Somoza assumed power, more than 12,000 people were arrested in the space of a few months, and the next three years saw a series of internal plots and armed invasions, all of which were brutally crushed. By 1960, however, as a result of external pressure from the United States and the need to regain the support of the opposition, Luis Somoza was forced to resurrect the "liberalization" program of his father. He promised "honest elections" and announced that he would serve only one term. Constitutional articles prohibiting immediate re-election or succession to the presidency by a relative of the incumbent were restored.

The liberalization process had clear limits, of course. For a full 80% of Luis' tenure, the country was under martial law. Repression of popular forces never ceased. Conservative Party demands for a greater role in government decision-making, and for OAS supervision of elections, were denied.

The Apparatus Starts to Crumble

Luis Somoza was considered by many to be the most politically astute member of the family. His brother, Tachito, a West Point graduate and hard-liner, opposed his civilian-oriented tactics and heated disputes were reported within the family.

Instead, the National Guard supervised elections, and Rene Schick, the Somoza family candidate, came into the presidency in 1963, in an election boycotted by the opposition. For five years Shick ran the country under the watchful eyes of Luis Somoza. During his administration the United States helped create the Central American Defense Council (Consejo de Defensa Centroamericano—CONDECA). In conjunction with the US southern command in Panama, CONDECA operates as a united counterrevolutionary force in Central America. (CONDECA troops, disguised as mercenaries, have been reported fighting in Nicaragua since last summer.)

During the early part of the Shick tenure, Tachito began to prime the party machinery in preparation for his own election in 1967. The campaign was marked by harassment of the opposition and culminated in the massacre of student protesters in January, 1967. Within months of Tachito's election, Luis' death of a heart attack resolved the family dispute.

As President, General Somoza returned to the heavy-handed tactics of his father in the 30s, including the undisguised use of office to expand his financial holdings and installing relatives and Guardsmen in key positions for which they had no experience. With their chief in command, officers of the Guard expanded their traditional abuse of authority and their illegal financial dealings.

The government was run as an extension of the Guard, with little regard for other components of the apparatus and none whatsoever for the masses. But the repression carried out against the masses was not without its consequences. Drawing on the enduring legacy of Sandino, who had refused to capitulate in the '20s, the Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional (FSLN) was forged in the early '60s. The FSLN is an anti-imperialist revolutionary organization dedicated to overthrowing Somoza and destroying the bureaucratic, military and economic structures that support the oppression known in Nicaragua as *Somocismo*.

The Provisional Government

The naming of a "provisional government of national reconstruction" June 17 corresponds to the Sandinista's long-term political goal of working with broad-based groups to bring about a "revolutionary, popular, and democratic government," to preside over free elections. All three tendencies of the Sandinistas accepted the naming of this provisional government. Key points of its program are:

- a non-aligned foreign policy.
- a national reconstruction program using the Somoza family's wealth to help rebuild the nation.
- formation of a "truly democratic and national army."

The members of the new government are:

• *Violeta Barrios de Chamorro*, of the now-defunct moderate opposition coalition UDEL, founded by her husband, martyred newspaper editor Pedro Joaquin Chamorro.

• *Sergio Ramirez Mercado*, of Los Doce, who is close to the insurrectionist (*tercerista*) tendency of the Sandinistas.

• *Alfonso Robelo Callejas*, business executive, of the pro-US Broad Opposition Front.

• *Moisés Hassan*, of the People United Movement, the base-level opposition group led by members of the Proletarian tendency of the FSLN.

• *Daniel Ortega Saavedra*, of the unified national board of the Sandinistas, and a member of the insurrectionist tendency.

Send Medical Supplies to: Envie Medicinas a:

2940 16th Street, Room 309

Mon thru Sat, 9 am to 5 pm

Needed: Bandages, gauze, antibiotics (concentrated capsules); pain killers (from bufferin to darvon); gel foams & sprays to stop hemorrhaging; syringes (disposable); scalpels, surgical instruments; alcohol & disinfectants; local anesthetics; operating kits; vitamins, especially c: surgical thread.

For more information, call 621-1362

Para mas informacion, llama a 621-1362

La Peña Film Series

Hiroshima Mon Amour

(7/6)

1959, 88 mins, b&w. Directed and produced by Alain Resnais.

A French actress, at Hiroshima to make a peace film, recaptures both the pain and richness of her experiences during the war—her affair with a German, his murder, her public disgrace and nervous breakdown—and finally making some sense of her life, past and present. Alain Resnais, inspired by Marguerite Duras' screenplay, finds that sense in a pattern of juxtapositions that emphasize differences of light and texture in the two cities, Nevers and Hiroshima, the poles of the heroine's life.

The Jackal of Nahueltoro

(7/7)

Chile, 1969. Directed by Miguel Littin. 89 mins, b&w. Spanish dialog with English subtitles.

One of the most controversial and widely seen films in Chilean history, *The Jackal of Nahueltoro* recreates the true story of that country's most shocking crime, a murder case in the early '60s which became a topic of national controversy. Jorge del Carmen Valenzuela Torres, an unemployed and illiterate peasant from Nahueltoro in the south of Chile, gets drunk one day and kills a peasant woman and her five children with whom he has been living. Hunted for days by the police, he is eventually caught, brought to trial and condemned to death. During the weeks he is in prison, however, he is taught to read and write and is instructed in religion, history and manual skills. Expressing his satisfaction with his newly-gained education, he is nevertheless taken out on the appointed day and executed by firing squad.

In recreating this incident, Littin is not interested in making just another crime thriller. He reveals the social conditions which led to the murder, the sensationalistic coverage of the mass media, and the senseless tragedy engendered by a system which, having originally crippled a man, "rehabilitates" him only then to execute him.

In the Event Anyone Disappears

(7/14)

1974, 25 min, color; Third World Newsreel.

What is it actually like inside a men's maximum security prison? Are prisons designed to rehabilitate or punish? Do prisons actually serve a useful social function? What programs are offered prisoners? What are medical care or living conditions like?

Through extensive interviews and other footage the answers to many of these questions are investigated. This film was made possible by the brothers inside the maximum security prisons at Trenton and Rahway, New Jersey. All the material in the film was taken inside these two prisons.

The Politics of Torture

50 min, color. Produced by ABC News Closeup, 1978.

ABC News Closeup journalists Tom Bywaters and William Sherman spent six months investigating and documenting the evidence of brutal repression—including use of torture—by US allies. Their film raises disturbing questions regarding the role of our government and major financial institutions in supporting such regimes.

Must these alliances simply be accepted under a principle of pragmatism or *realpolitik*? Are such policies ultimately damaging to our interests? How are global interests and national security of the United States defined? What is our moral obligation to victims of torture and repression?

We Demand Freedom

(7/21)

1974, 55 min, b&w.

From the period of the slave trade through the present this film helps us understand how the legal system has been used against the lower classes in general and people of color in particular. We also can begin to understand how our history is one of continuous resistance to unjust laws.

This film helps us understand the similarity of the total control of prisoners' lives and the controls on our lives on the "outside." It contains footage from prisons in California, Texas, Massachusetts and New Jersey as well as important historical material from labor struggles; the Japanese Detention Camps during WWII, Birmingham, Alabama; Vietnam and other historical events.

Inside Women Inside

How does a woman cope with such common occurrences as illness, pregnancy and family conflicts when she is sent away to prison?

At the North Carolina Correctional Center for Women and the Correctional Institute for Women at Rikers Island, New York, a number of women answer these questions quite candidly.

Provocative interviews with these women reveal the anger and frustrations of daily life behind bars. We hear testimonies from women who have suffered from unnecessary miscarriages and improper medical care. We catch glimpses of inhumane conditions ranging from feudal wages and overcrowded cellblocks to lack of nutritional meals in the cafeteria.

The filmmakers recreate the mood of this devastating experience by exposing the degrading conditions of correctional institutions.

The camera follows women demanding better meals and realistic job training; institutionalized injustices against them are clarified, disrupting our conventional view of women behind bars.

In spite of the realities of their oppression, the optimism and strength is insurmountable.

Produced by Third World Newsreel, 1978; directed by Christine Choy and Cynthia Maurizio. 28 mins, color.

Friends of La Peña:

After four years as an effective, positive force in the community, La Peña Cultural Center is continuing to work and grow. We are a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, and we urge all of you who can to make tax-deductible contributions to La Peña. A \$3 donation covers the cost of printing and mailing one calendar for a year. A \$20 donation (\$10 for people without a regular income) enables us to send you una Tarjeta de Compañerismo, which entitles you to 24 courtesy half-price admissions to La Peña-sponsored events for one year. We will, of course, continue sending the calendar to those who cannot afford to make a contribution, and we hope those of you who can donate more will assist us in our work.

Thank you for your solidarity.

¡QUE VIVA LA PEÑA!

☐ Enclosed is my \$_____ tax-deductible donation to support La Peña's work.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

COMMUNITY CENTER CALENDAR

AUGUST, 1979

3109 Shattuck Ave.

Thursday 2

Two Panel Discussions

**Exile & Repression, Repression & Exile
Demystification & the history of cinema in Argentina,
Cinema & Repression**

A group of Latin American psychologists living in exile will discuss their work on the effects on their lives and the lives of others who are forced to live in exile. A second panel will discuss the Argentine cinema and its use as a tool of repression. 7 pm, donation requested.

Friday 3

Community Center Friday Free Flicks Grapes of Wrath

Classic 1940 movie based on Steinbeck's novel about the dust bowl and the migration of the "Okies" to California where they find exploitation instead of paradise. Stars Henry Fonda. (B&W, 115 min.) 7 pm sharp. Free.

Sunday 5

Cuba Coordinating Council General Membership Meeting Open to Prospective New Members

The Cuba Coordinating Council (CCC) is being formed in the Bay Area to help provide and disseminate information about the Cuban Revolution to as wide an audience as possible. We first came together to coordinate the activities of groups and individuals already doing educational work about the Cuban Revolution. The CCC will initiate and participate in a variety of activities aimed at breaking the US economic blockade of Cuba.

As part of this effort, we are organizing a speakers bureau and a resource bank, and providing a central location for resources and activities. Our temporary headquarters are located at La Pena Community Center.

We welcome the participation of all people who have been to Cuba, those who have studied, or who wish to learn more about the Cuban Revolution, and who share our basic goals of providing honest information about Cuba and ending the blockade. 7 pm.

Monday 6

Campaign for Economic Democracy Educational Forum

"Solar Opportunities for Local Governments"

In an era of dwindling energy supplies there remains one largely untapped and inexhaustible energy source—the Sun. Solar energy is here today, a feasible energy source whose development awaits political action. Tonight a representative from Wester SUN (Solar Utilization Network) discusses possible governmental opportunities to facilitate solar development along the lines of a democratic model which would provide meaningful energy independence and employment potential. 7:30 pm. \$2.00.

Wednesday 8

Life in South Africa under Apartheid

What does it really mean to live in South Africa? Stop Banking on Apartheid & KOPANO (Black South Africans living in the Bay Area) present a photo/poetry display with slide show of US involvement in South Africa and how we as North Americans can aid Black Africans in their struggle for liberation from the apartheid system. Discussion to follow & literature will be provided. 7:30. Donation requested.

Thursday 9

Nicaragua Workshop

An update on the most current events, and more importantly a discussion of concrete ways you can work in support of the Nicaraguan People in this critical time. Everyone is welcome. Sponsored by the Committee for Political and Human Rights in Nicaragua. 7:30 pm.

Friday 10

Community Center Friday Free Flicks Harvest of Shame

A visual account of the deplorable plight of millions of migratory workers who harvest America's crops. Edward R. Murrow narrates this now-classic documentary. B&W, 54 min, 1960.) 7 pm sharp. Free.

Saturday 11

Is There Democracy in Colombia?

The film *What is Democracy?* will be shown about the fraudulent electoral process in Colombia. There has been a state of siege in Colombia for 25 years. Now a new law has been passed "el estatuto de seguridad" which makes it a crime to possess "subversive" materials. The law has been used to silence the opposition. Death squads have systematically killed Argentine and Chilean refugees in exile as well as Colombian labor leaders and progressive church people: yet Colombia is considered a democracy by the US press. The Frente Colombiano por el Socialismo, The Colombian Front for Socialism will discuss the repression & current events in Colombia. 7:30 pm, \$2.00.

Sunday 12

LA PEÑA CHICA – THE LITTLE PEÑA

La tradición de las nuevas Peñas comenzo en America Latina, especialmente en Chile y Argentina, al comienzo de los años sesenta. En ellas no solo se expuso el folklore tradicional, sino tambien la nueva ola de la canción latino-americana que expone los problemas sociales, economicos, y politicos que aquejan a nuestros pueblos.

Tratamos de mantener en vivo esta tradición. Con nuestro nuevo agregado el *Centro Comunitario* de La Peña, creemos que podemos presentar programas populares con la participación de nuestra Raza, con su música, sus bailes y sus poemas en un ambiente mas íntimo donde no es necesario el micrófono ni nada eléctrico tal como el campesino canta a su tierra y a su gente, quizas a la luz de una vela.

No se olvide, nuestra "Peña Chica" se inaugurara a las nueve de la noche. Traiga su guitarra, charango o bombo, tampoco se olvide del cuatro, zampoñas o tiple, y estemos dispuestos a pasar un rato agradable y educativo. Un dolar para cubrir gastos y ademas recibira una bebida.

Nos vemos.

The tradition of the new Peñas began in Latin America, especially Chile and Argentina, at the beginning of the sixties. There, not only was traditional folklore performed but also the new wave of the Latin American Song that spoke of the social problems, economic and political concerns of our peoples.

We are attempting to keep this tradition alive. With our new addition, La Peña Community Center, we are able to present popular programs with the participation of our Raza with our music, dances, and poetry in a more intimate atmosphere where it is not necessary to use a microphone nor any electric equipment, like the peasant who sings to the land and to his people, perhaps by candlelight.

Don't forget our "Little Peña" which will start at 9 pm.

Bring your guitar, charango or bombo and remember your cuatro, zampoñas, and tiple and we will be glad to have a pleasant time together. One dollar to cover costs. Refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday 15

N.O.W. Organizational Meeting

The local East Bay chapter of N.O.W. (National Organization of Women) invites you to attend an open organizational meeting. Issues of primary concern include preservation of abortion rights, equal rights amendment, preservation of affirmative action, childcare and quality public education. 7:30-9 pm.

Thursday 16

Radical Poetry Series: Open Reading

Bring your favorite socially conscious poetry, your own or other people's. Bring the poems that have had most impact on your political understanding of the world. Help initiate the Radical Poetry Series, which begins twice a month in September. 7:30. Free.

Friday 17

Community Center Friday Free Flicks Salt of the Earth

A distinguished semi-documentary re-creation of an actual year-long strike of Mexican-American miners in New Mexico. Directed by Herbert Bilberman, one of the unfriendly ten during the communist witch-hunt investigations of the paranoid '50s (B&W, 94 min, 1954). 7 pm sharp. Free.

Tuesday 21

Vieques, Puerto Rico: Fishermen Take on the Navy

For over two years, fishermen and residents of the small island of Vieques, off Puerto Rico's southeastern coast, have been engaged in skirmishes and full-fledged battle with the US Navy, which uses their island for aerial bombardment, ship-to-shore maneuvers and target practice. A speaker from Puerto Rico and a member of the Puerto Rico Solidarity Committee will discuss the situation. Also a slide show documenting the environmental and economical devastation of of the island will be presented. Come meet a people who are challenging colonialism. 8 pm. \$1.00 donation.

Wednesday 22

American Indian Movement (AIM) Nuclear Workshop

Educational workshop focusing on the devastation of Indian lands in New Mexico and the Black Hills. According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, uranium mining and milling is the deadliest part of the nuclear fuel cycle. Most of the uranium reserves and milling facilities lie on Indian Treaty land. AIM will present a side show plus an in-depth discussion. 7 pm, donation requested.

Thursday 23

Film: Controlling Interest

Film showing: *Controlling Interest*. Benefit for Northern Calif. Interfaith Committee on Corporate Responsibility (NC-ICCR). The world of the multi-national corporation, the entities that control so much of our lives. \$2 donation goes towards NC-ICCR's work to put people back in control. 7:30 pm.

Friday 24

Community Center Friday Free Flicks A La Brava: Prison and Beyond

A stark and revealing documentary, filmed at Soledad prison in Calif, that shows details of daily life there, probes the motivations, ambitions, and intellectual insights of chicano inmates, discusses their struggle for political, cultural, and emotional survival, and explores their concepts of themselves as individuals and as members of an exploited community. (B&W, 55 min, 1975.) 7 pm sharp. Free.

Sunday 26

Forum on Women in Prison

Sisters Inside: Women in Prison, a program on incarcerated women, including a round-table discussion with women from Pleasanton Women's Prison and San Bruno County Jail; prison music; and the film *We're Alive!*, a film about women at California Institute for Women. We'll focus on problems of incarcerated mothers, pregnancy and health issues, and getting out of prison. We'll also talk about what we, on the outside, can do to work with women in prison. 7:30 pm, \$\$.50 to \$1.00 donation.

Monday 27

Berkeley Tenants Union Community Meeting

Evictions and rent are dramatically increasing as landlords realize that speculative resale, high turnover of tenants, and outright threats, are the easiest ways to violate the few protective laws. The only rent restrictions will expire at year's end unless the City Council acts. There must be a charter amendment to have a rent control board. The city will not enforce its own housing code and discrimination laws. Counseling and organizing money is going to high bureaucrat salaries and useless mediation schemes.

The Berkeley Tenants Union is sponsoring a community meeting on a Tenants Bill of Rights. All tenants are welcome! The meeting will include strategy planning for immediate lobbying of a "just cause for eviction" ordinance. A sign language interpreter will be present. Call BTU Tuesday or Friday afternoon 843-6601 for child care arrangement. BTU counseling workshop for more immediate problems is at 7:30 pm every Tuesday at 2022 Blake St. All tenants welcome.

Tuesday 28

The "Disappeared" in Argentina

The widespread terror in Argentina has touched every sector of society. Most tragic has been the brutalization of children of Argentina. Amnesty International, Group 64 of Berkeley, will speak about the situation of the "disappeared" children and the current human rights situation in Argentina. The "disappeared" are those who are kidnaped by off-duty police and paramilitary groups who seek to eliminate from Argentina anything "subversive." Often the "disappeared" are shot and their bodies mutilated to make recognition impossible. Speakers will discuss strategies on ways we can help. 7:30. Free. Public invited.

Wednesday 29

Campaign for Economic Democracy Educational Forum

"Occupational and Environmental Cancer"

A showing of the film, *Song of the Canary*. Followed by discussion around the politics of cancer, its environmental and occupational causes, and the corporate responsibility for the use of carcinogenic materials in production. 7:30 pm. \$2.00.

Friday 31

Community Center Friday Free Flicks This Child Rated X

A film study of the abuse of children's rights and the inequities of juvenile justice focuses on two types of children: those who commit a child's crime, ie, truancy and those who commit a serious crime. (color, 52 min, 1971) plus

Sometimes I Wonder Who I Am

A brief, succinct study of the conflict felt by a young housewife who dreams of the career she could have had. (B&W, 5 min, 1972.) 7 pm sharp. Free.

Puerto Rico: Past & Present

Course offered for college credit under the auspices of Vista College. 3 credits. Wednesday evening from 7 pm to 10 pm. Classes begin Wednesday, September 12. You can register at the first class meeting.

This 15-week course will introduce the history and current status of Puerto Rico, and its particular relationship to the United States. We will examine such topics as the historical relationship of Puerto Rico to the US; the political, economic, social and cultural impact of US control of Puerto Rico; the various alternatives to the current status of Puerto Rico; the economic and political forces now favoring statehood for Puerto Rico; the current state of the independence movement; the Puerto Rican population in the United States; and the meaning of Puerto Rico issue for people in the United States.

The class will meet once a week on Wednesday evening from 7 pm to 10 pm at La Pena. Readings include one book and selected articles. Audio-visual materials will also be used.

Bob Gabriner, the teacher, has been a part-time history instructor at Laney and Vista Colleges for the past ten years. He is also co-author of *Puerto Rico: The Flame of Resistance* and former coordinator of the Puerto Rico Solidarity Committee (Bay Area Chapter). He is currently a research fellow at the Institute for Food and Development Policy in San Francisco.